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THREE NEW AFRICAN BIRDS.

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While working on the birds I collected in Africa during 1924 and 1925, I found it advisable to recognize two new subspecies and one new species, which are described below.

*Parus albiventris curtus*, subsp. nov.

*Type*.—No. 232685, Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, female, from Taveta, Kenya Colony. Collected April 13, 1925, by H. Friedmann.

*Subspecific characters*.—Similar to *Parus albiventris albiventris* but smaller, with shorter wings.

*Description of type*.—Head, neck, scapulars, interscapulars, back, rump, and upper tail-coverts dark blackish brown; median wing-coverts white; greater wing-coverts and the remiges edged with white on the outer webs, the white edges of the inner primaries and outer secondaries shaded with ashy; sides of head, chin, and throat dusky brownish; breast and flanks ashy black, mixed with brown on the breast and fading to dark bluish gray on the lower flanks; abdomen and under tail-coverts whitish; tail black, the outermost pair of rectrices with the outer webs white except at the base, where they are blackish; bill black; feet dark slate color.

*Measurements of type*.—Wing, 75; tail, 53; culmen from base, 10; tarsus, 15.3.

*Range*.—The coast districts of Kenya Colony inland to Taveta. Specimens known from Sagala and Samburu (Van Someren) and Taveta.

*Remarks*.—Dr. van Someren (*Novitates Zoologicae*, vol. 29, p. 205, 1922) noticed that birds from the coastal region are smaller than specimens from the uplands of Kenya Colony, and expressed the opinion that, with more material, the coastal birds would prove to be a smaller race. He gives the following wing measurements: coastal males, 75-77; upcountry males, 83-86; upcountry females, 80-82. My Taveta bird (a female) has a wing of 75 mm., while a male from Morijo has a wing of 84 mm. Taveta is in the low thorn-bush plain about 120 miles inland, while Morijo is in the high inland plateau of East Africa. The discrepancy in size in my specimens, corresponding with that reported by Van Someren, justifies the recognition of the coastal bird as a distinct form. *Parus albiventris* was originally described by Shelley from Ugogo, in the inland plateau of Tanganyika Territory, and the type speci-

men, a female, has a wing of 80 mm. Therefore the inland bird with longer wings is the typical form.

*Amadina fasciata candida*, subsp. nov.

*Type*.—No. 232923, Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, adult male, from Taveta, Kenya Colony. Collected April 4, 1925, by H. Friedmann.

*Subspecific characters*.—Male: similar to *Amadina fasciata alexanderi* but browner above and below; the mantle less streaked, more uniform; and the bill slightly shorter. Female: similar to *alexanderi* but browner above and below, and bill slightly smaller.

*Description of type*.—Head avellaneous, changing gradually into wood brown on the occiput and hind neck, all the feathers with subterminal black bars; scapulars and interscapulars walnut brown, the anterior interscapulars with subterminal bars, the others with only faint indications of such bars; back and rump pecan brown, merging anteriorly into walnut brown, the feathers faintly barred subterminally with black; upper tail-coverts light ochraceous-buff with black subterminal bars; tail fuscous-black, the middle pair of rectrices washed with grayish for the basal three-quarters, narrowly edged with light grayish and narrowly tipped with pale ochraceous-buff; the rest of the rectrices broadly tipped with pale ochraceous-buff on their inner webs and narrowly tipped with the same color on their outer webs, the outermost pair of rectrices with the entire outer web pale ochraceous-buff; lesser wing-coverts pecan brown with black subterminal spots; the middle coverts pale fuscous-black with brownish buff shaft streaks, ochraceous-buff tips, and V-shaped black subterminal bars; the greater coverts pale fuscous-black with wide ochraceous-buff tips, the black subterminal marks restricted to the outer webs; remiges fuscous-black, externally margined and tipped with ochraceous-buff, the tips narrow on the primaries and outer secondaries and broad on the inner secondaries; black subterminal bands present on the inner secondaries only; sides of head and chin whitish, with a broad band of crimson extending from the auriculars across the cheeks and upper throat; lores dusky brownish; lower throat, breast, flanks, abdomen, and under tail-coverts pale fawn color, darkest on the breast, flanks, and thighs, and fading to light buff on the lower abdomen; center of abdomen pale Mars brown; bill dark brown; feet reddish brown; iris brown.

*Measurements*.—Adult male (type): wing, 65; tail, 41; tarsus, 13; culmen from base, 9.5. Adult female: wing, 63; tail, 38; tarsus, 13; culmen from base, 9.5. (In three males of *alexanderi*, culmen from base measures 10–10.5 (10.3); in one female, 10.)

*Range*.—The lowlands of Kenya Colony (and probably of Tanganyika Territory).

*Remarks*.—Judging by Van Someren's statement (*Novitates Zoologicae*, vol. 29, p. 146, 1922) that his birds seemed to have browner mantles than specimens from Abyssinia and South Ethiopia; it seems that his series is all *candida*. His birds were collected at Taveta; Simba, Tsavo, Magadi, and Kisumu.

In Kenya Colony *Amadina fasciata alexanderi* ranges at least as far south as the Mweru River (between Mount Kenya and the

Guaso Nyiro). This form was described by Neumann (Bull. B. O. C., vol. 23, p. 43, 1909) from Waram, Hawash River, Shoa, Abyssinia, and therefore this name applies to the paler northern birds of Kenya Colony with which I have compared my specimens of *candida*. My *alexanderi* material consists of three males and one female from the Mweru River.

*Parisoma pulpum*, sp. nov.

*Type*.—No. 94842, Museum of Comparative Zoölogy, male in worn plumage, from Gunnal, Portuguese Guinea. Collected May 28, 1909, by W. J. Searge.

*Specific characters*.—Similar to *Parisoma plumbeum* but with a much larger, more swollen bill; less white on the wing-coverts and remiges; and the feet pale olive-green as opposed to dark brown in *P. plumbeum*.

*Description of type*.—Head, neck, scapulars, interscapulars, back, rump, and upper tail-coverts light neutral gray washed with cinereous, the interscapulars with a brownish tinge; lesser coverts like the scapulars; the middle and greater coverts and the remiges fuscous, the coverts and two outermost primaries externally edged with grayish buff, the rest of the remiges externally edged with whitish; the inner webs of all the remiges broadly margined with white; under wing-coverts whitish; tail dark fuscous, the outermost pair of rectrices white except basally; the second pair very broadly tipped with white, the outer web being white for its distal two-thirds; the next two pairs tipped with white; the middle two pairs without white tips (but the specimen is badly worn); sides of head light neutral gray; lores blackish, margined above and below with whitish, the whitish extending around the eye; chin whitish, streaked with pale neutral gray; throat, breast, and flanks pale neutral gray; belly and under tail-coverts whitish, tinged with light buff; bill greenish gray, the upper mandible darker than the lower; feet pale olive-green; iris dark brown. The colors of the bill, feet, and iris are taken from the collector's notes on the original label and are not distinguishable in the dried skin, but even in the skin the bill and feet are much lighter than in skins of *Parisoma plumbeum*.

*Measurements of type*.—Wing, 68.5; tail, 66; culmen from base, 15.5; tarsus, 18.

*Range*.—Known only from the type locality.

*Remarks*.—This new tit-babbler closely resembles *Parisoma plumbeum*, and the specimen in the Museum of Comparative Zoölogy was labeled as such. The differences in bill and feet are very marked and cannot be considered as pathological in the bird described above. *P. plumbeum* is said to range from the Cape Colony to Portuguese Guinea, but I have seen no specimens from anywhere near the latter country. It may be that specimens from that district will all prove to be *pulpum*.

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